

EFFECT OF WEATHER ON CROPS AND FARM OPERATIONS, APRIL, 1924

By J. B. KINCER

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
MISSISSIPPI DRAINAGE—continued					
Muskingum:	Feet			Feet	
Marietta, Ohio.....	36	(1)	2	40.4	1
Tuscarawas:					
Coshocton, Ohio.....	8	(1)	1		
Gnadenhutten, Ohio.....	10	(1)	2	13.1	Mar. 31
Scioto:					
Chillicothe, Ohio.....	16	(1)	1		
Wabash:					
Lafayette, Ind.....	11	(1)	4	21.2	Mar. 31
Terre Haute, Ind.....	16	(1)	29	11.3	29
Vincennes, Ind.....	14	(1)	6	20.0	2
Mount Carmel, Ill.....	16	2	10	18.6	6
		1	10	21.6	7
White:					
Decker, Ind.....	18	5	7	19.5	6
White, East Fork:					
Seymour, Ind.....	10	(1)	1	11.0	1
White, West Fork:					
Elliston, Ind.....	19	(1)	4	23.9	3
Edwardsport, Ind.....	14	(1)	6	18.6	3, 4
French Broad:					
Penrose, N. C.....	13	19	19	13.6	19
Wisconsin:					
Knowlton, Wis.....	12	17	19	14.8	18
		27	27	12.5	27
Illinois:					
Morris, Ill.....	13	(1)	5	15.8	Mar. 31
Peru, Ill.....	14	(1)	28	19.5	3
Henry, Ill.....	7	(1)	(2)	13.5	5
Peoria, Ill.....	16	(1)	26	20.1	6
Havana, Ill.....	14	(1)	24	16.5	7-9
Beardstown, Ill.....	12	(1)	(2)	17.6	9
Pearl, Ill.....	12	1	21	14.0	10-12
Meramec:					
Pacific, Mo.....	11	11	11	11.9	11
Valley Park, Mo.....	14	11	11	11.0	11
Arkansas:					
Wichita, Kans.....	9	30	(2)		
Little Arkansas:					
Sedgwick, Kans.....	18	29	(2)	22.7	29
Petit Jean:					
Danville, Ark.....	20	30	(2)		
North Platte:					
North Platte, Neb.....	5	19	21	5.5	19
		24	26	5.0	24-26
		29	29	5.2	29
Grand:					
Chillicothe, Mo.....	18	(1)	(2)	21.3	Mar. 31
Brunswick, Mo.....	10	16	19	10.3	17, 18
WEST GULF DRAINAGE					
Trinity:					
Dallas, Tex.....	25	27	(2)	31.0	28
Long Lake, Tex.....	40	(1)	3	40.4	2
Liberty.....	25	10	13	25.2	13
Rio Grande:					
San Marcial, N. Mex.....	2	1	1	2.0	1
		7	(1)	4.1	27-29
COLORADO DRAINAGE					
Colorado:					
Lees Ferry, Ariz.....	12	12	19	12.8	18
Parker, Ariz.....	7	15	25	7.5	20, 22
		29	30	7.0	29, 30

1 Continued from last month.
2 Continued at end of month.

3 Below flood stage 8 a. m., April 1.
4 Estimated.

MEAN LAKE LEVELS DURING APRIL, 1924

By UNITED STATES LAKE SURVEY

(Detroit, Mich., May 5, 1924)

The following data are reported in the "Notice to Mariners" of the above date:

Data	Lakes ¹			
	Superior	Michigan and Huron	Erie	Ontario
Mean level during April, 1924:	Feet	Feet	Feet	Feet
Above mean sea level at New York.....	601.02	578.87	571.77	245.36
Above or below—				
Mean stage of March, 1924.....	-0.05	+0.18	+0.51	+0.48
Mean stage of April, 1923.....	-0.37	-0.33	+0.28	+0.03
Average stage for April last 10 years.....	-0.77	-1.40	-0.45	-0.78
Highest recorded April stage.....	-1.67	-4.36	-2.41	-3.07
Lowest recorded April stage.....	+0.48	-0.33	+0.51	+0.52
Average relation of the April level to:				
March level.....		+0.3	+0.6	+0.7
May level.....		-0.3	-0.4	-0.3

¹ Lake St. Clair's level: In April, 1924, 574.15 feet.

The weather during April was somewhat more favorable for agricultural interests than that for the preceding month, although the season continued considerably late in practically all sections east of the Mississippi River, and the frequent rains were unfavorable for field operations in the more eastern States. There was in general sufficient soil moisture in the central and eastern portions of the country, although part of the month was too dry in the region between the upper Mississippi Valley and the Rocky Mountains; rains in this section, however, improved conditions during the latter part of the month. But little rain fell west of the Rocky Mountains, and drought had become severe in much of that area at the close of the month, while frost damage to fruit was rather extensive, especially in the eastern portions of the North Pacific States.

Winter wheat made satisfactory progress during the month in the Ohio Valley States, except those portions where there was heavy winterkilling, while good wheat-growing weather was the rule in the trans-Mississippi States. Wheat plants were jointing as far north as southeastern Kansas at the close of the month. In the more northwestern States, and in California, the continued dry weather was decidedly unfavorable for wheat and other fall-sown grains. Conditions were rather favorable for seeding spring wheat, and this crop had been largely sown at the close of the month, while satisfactory germination of the early-sown grain was reported.

Much corn ground was prepared for seeding in the upper Mississippi and Ohio Valleys, but little had been seeded at the close of the month, though planting was general in Missouri, and was well along in the southern half of Kansas. Early-planted corn germinated satisfactorily in southern portions of the belt, while the crop did fairly well in the more southern States, although it was rather too cool in the south Atlantic area. In general the weather was favorable for cotton planting and this work was extended to the northern portions of the belt in all sections, though the latter part of the month was too cool and wet in many northern cotton districts. Most of the crop was seeded in the central and southern portions of the east Gulf States and planting was well along in Tennessee, with chopping progressing in the southern parts of Alabama and Georgia. The nights were too cool, however, the latter part of the month for best germination and growth of cotton in the eastern portions of the belt.

Potatoes did well under favorable conditions for this crop in the Southeastern States, though growth was rather slow; the weather was unfavorable for planting potatoes in the middle Atlantic coast sections. Melons were backward and mostly poor in Florida, but tomatoes made good advance, with shipments in progress from the southern portions of the State. The warmer weather early in the month cleared the snow from most of the winter ranges in the Rocky Mountain districts and conditions were generally favorable for stock interests from that area eastward. Ranges were unfavorably affected by the dry weather in the more western States.